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JULY 1 - 1981

Dear Mr. Biaggi:

I am responding to your letter of May 27 to Max Friederudorf, Assistant to the President for Congressional Liaison, concerning steps the United States plans to take to clarify the fate of Raoul Wallenberg.

As you may be aware, the United States Government has been concerned over the fate of Raoul Wallenberg since the case first came to light at the end of World War II. We have taken every appropriate opportunity to ask Soviet authorities for a clarification on the Wallenberg case. When we received reports which indicated the possibility that Wallenberg might still be alive, we raised the matter with the Soviets on numerous occasions throughout 1978. They finally answered, formally and in writing, in February of 1980, stating that Wallenberg had died in July of 1947. They also informed the Swedish Government of this finding and they indicated that they would have no further information on Wallenberg in the future.

The Wallenberg case remains a matter of continuing concern for the United States Government. We have continued our efforts to gain information regarding his fate. In December of 1980 at the Madrid CSCE Review Conference, the United States Delegation voiced its support for the position of the Government of Sweden when the Swedish Delegation urged renewed efforts to resolve the Wallenberg case. In addition, representatives from the American Embassy in Stockholm attended sessions of the recent hearing on the Wallenberg case held in Stockholm on January 15 and 16 of this year. Most recently, on April 10, Ambassador Max Kampelmeyer, speaking in Madrid for a CSCE plenary session, stated that the Wallenberg case was one that "will not go away." Ambassador Kampelmeyer noted that the refusal of the Soviets "to appreciate the human factor which is symbolized by the Wallenberg case is stimulating even further interest." He stated that "the tragic mystery of Raoul Wallenberg is unnecessarily becoming a divisive international issue."

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The Honorable

Max Biaggi

House of Representatives

